

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine  
Washington, D. C.

B. E. P. Q. 413, Revised.

November 15, 1938.

PLANT-QUARANTINE IMPORT RESTRICTIONS  
OF THE  
REPUBLIC OF SWITZERLAND



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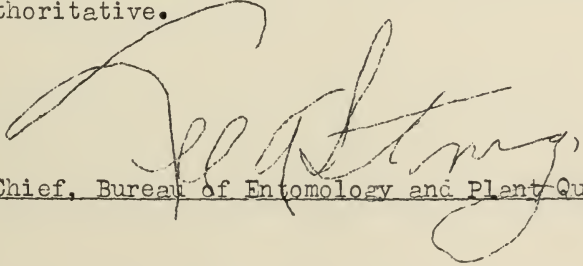
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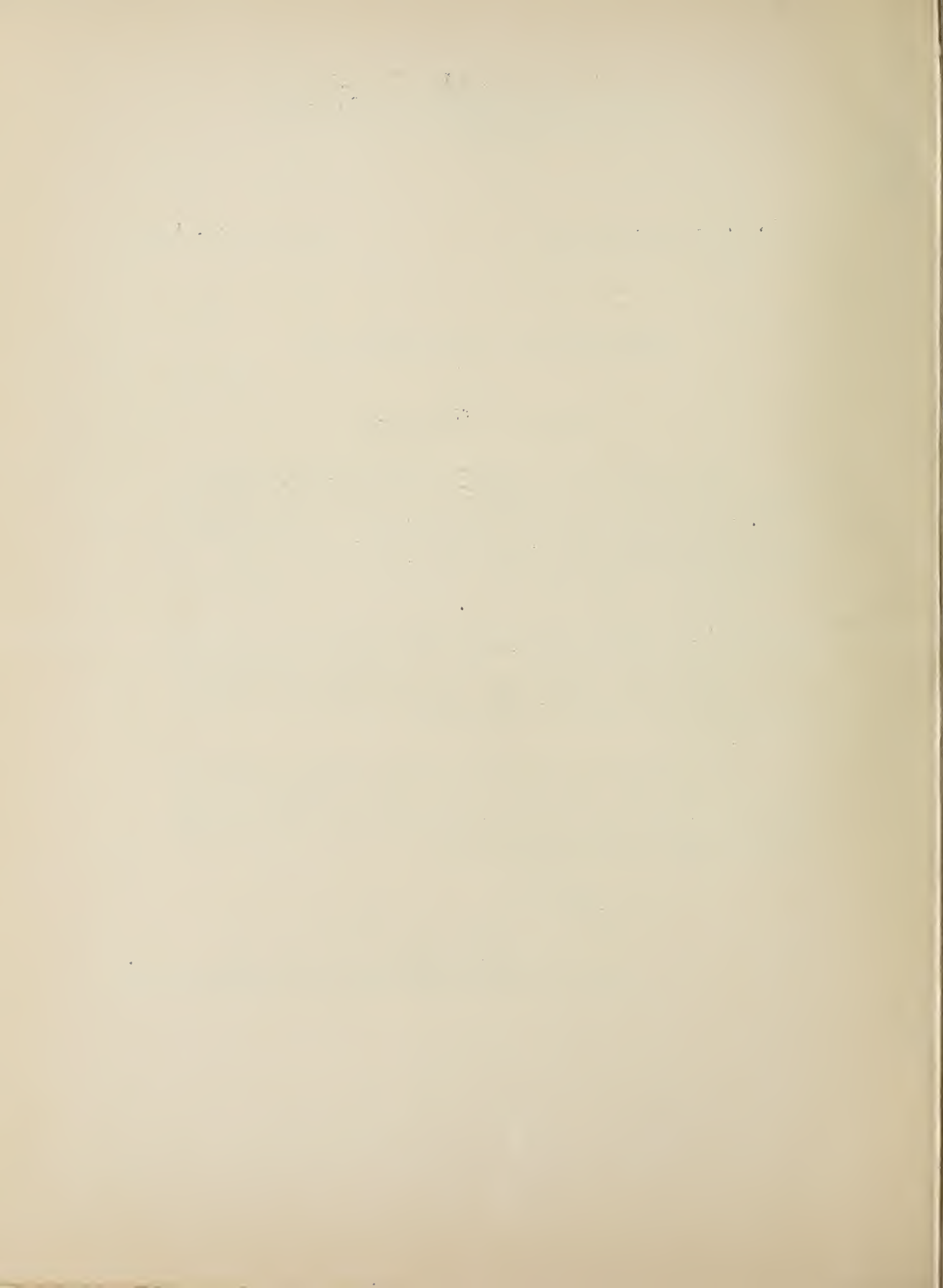
This revision of the digest of the plant-quarantine import restrictions of the Republic of Switzerland, which was rendered necessary by the promulgation of more recent regulations, has been prepared for the information of nurserymen, plant-quarantine officials, and others interested in the exportation of plants and plant products to that country.

It was prepared by Harry B. Shaw, Plant Quarantine Inspector, in charge of Foreign Service Information, Division of Foreign Plant Quarantines, from the French and German texts of the corresponding Swiss laws and regulations, and reviewed by the Division of Agriculture, Federal Department of Public Economy of the Republic of Switzerland.

The information contained in this circular is believed to be correct and complete up to the time of preparation, but it is not intended to be used independently of, nor as a substitute for, the original texts, and it is not to be interpreted as legally authoritative.



Chief, Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine.



# PLANT-QUARANTINE IMPORT RESTRICTIONS

OF THE

REPUBLIC OF SWITZERLAND

## BASIC LEGISLATION

Federal Law of December 22, 1893, Article 12, as amended by those of October 5, 1929, and April 7, 1930, concerning the improvement of agriculture by the Federation.

"The Federal Council is authorized to order an efficacious supervision of vineyards and to take necessary preventive measures against the spread of phylloxera and other parasites, to prohibit the importation, traffic in, and exportation of plants, materials, and products that could serve as carriers of phylloxera or any other parasite menacing agriculture, and to enact penal provisions against violators, prescribing fines up to 1,000 fr."

## SUMMARY

### Importation Prohibited

\*GRAPEVINE STOCKS, SHOOTS, STEMS, LEAVES, REFUSE, UNPRESSED VINTAGE GRAPES, USED PROPS AND SUPPORTS, COMPOSTS, AND VEGETABLE MOLDS: Importation from any source prohibited, as a precaution against the introduction of Phylloxera vitifoliae Fitch. (Art. 57, Regulations of July 10, 1894. See p. 4.)

### Importation Restricted

\*TABLE AND VINTAGE GRAPES, GRAPE MARC, FRUIT TREES, STOCKS, AND SHRUBS proceeding from countries that do not adhere to the International Phylloxera Convention of Berne, November 3, 1881: May be imported only with the permission of the Division of Agriculture of the Swiss Federal Department of Public Economy. (Art. 58 of the Regulations of July 10, 1894. See also the Order of June 5, 1937, concerning fruits originating in the United States, p. 4.)

\*Items indicated by an asterisk concern the products of the United States.

STOCKS, SHRUBS, FRUIT TREES, AND ALL PLANTS EXCEPT GRAPEVINES from countries that adhere to the International Phylloxera Convention of Berne: May be imported through designated ports, but must be accompanied by a shipper's declaration of origin and a phylloxera certificate. (Articles 61 and 62, Regulations of July 10, 1894, see p. 6.) Those grown in countries that do not adhere to that Convention, including the United States, may be imported only under a special authorization from the Swiss Division of Agriculture. (Art. 58, Regulations of July 10, 1894, p. 4.)

\*ROOTED VEGETABLES, SUCH AS EDIBLE BULBS, SALADS, ETC., from countries that do not adhere to the International Phylloxera Convention of Berne: May be imported into Switzerland only when accompanied by a phytosanitary certificate issued by the authorities of the country of origin. In the absence of that certificate, the products may be imported only under a special authorization of the Swiss Division of Agriculture. (Letter from the Swiss Division of Agriculture, June 13, 1936.)

\*TREES, SHRUBS, AND OTHER LIVING PLANTS not in tubs or pots, parts of plants, such as scions, cuttings, layers, etc., proceeding from countries named in article 3 of the Order of June 5, 1937, including the United States (see p. 9): Must be accompanied by a certificate issued by the phytopathological service of the country of origin, prepared in, or translated into French, German, or Italian, affirming that the shipment is free from San Jose scale, other parasites, and diseases. The certificate must also affirm that the shipment has been subjected to an effective treatment with hydrocyanic acid gas and that the shipment has been sealed with an official seal. However, it should be borne in mind that under the phylloxera restrictions such plant material from the United States may be imported into Switzerland only under a special authorization from the Swiss Division of Agriculture. (See preceding item.) (Art. 1, Order of June 5, 1937, p. 7.)

\*FRUITS, FRESH POMACEOUS AND STONE: Fresh pomaceous and stone fruits proceeding from the countries named in article 3 of the Order of June 5, 1937 (see p. 9), including the United States, must be accompanied by an inspection certificate issued by the phytopathological service of the



country of origin prepared in or translated into French, German, or Italian, affirming that the shipment is free from San Jose scale, other parasites, and diseases (Art. 1, Order of June 5, 1937, p. 7). The Swiss authorities will accept State as well as Federal certificates. The prescribed form of certificate includes a declaration that also the establishment where the fruit was grown is free from San Jose scale. However, for the present, the Swiss Division of Agriculture will accept the standard export certificate, Form EQ-375, revised March 1, 1938. That Division requires a certificate for each European car-load of fruit (about 400 boxes of apples). Therefore a sufficient number of copies of the certificate must be furnished to meet the requirement.

POTATOES FOR CONSUMPTION capable of introducing potato wart (Synchytrium endobioticum) or the Colorado potato beetle (Leptinotarsa decemlineata), in that they originate in countries in which those parasites are known to occur (see the Order of May 18, 1938, p. 12), must be accompanied by a phytosanitary certificate indicating origin and certifying that the potatoes were grown in land where neither the Colorado potato beetle nor wart have hitherto appeared and that wart has not been determined within a radius of 5 km and Colorado beetle within a radius of 20 km thereof. (Art. 1, Order of April 14, 1938, p. 10.) This is, in effect, a prohibition against the importation of potatoes from the United States, except possibly from the State of California.

POTATOES FOR SEED PURPOSES: The Department of Public Economy is authorized to make special provisions for the importation of and traffic in seed potatoes. (Art. 13, Order of April 14, 1938, see p. 12.)

#### Importation Unrestricted

\*WINE, DRIED GRAPES, GRAPE SEEDS, CUT FLOWERS, VEGETABLES WITHOUT ROOTS, SEEDS, FRUITS OF ALL KINDS (except American and Australian fruits): May be imported into Switzerland from any source, without restriction. (Art. 60, regulations of July 10, 1894, p. 5.) This applies to the phylloxera restrictions only.

## PHYLLOXERA RESTRICTIONS

(Articles 57 to 63 of the Regulations of July 10, 1894, promulgated under the Federal Law of December 22, 1893, as amended)

### Importation Prohibited

Article 57. The importation into Switzerland of stocks, shoots, stems, leaves, refuse of grapevines, unpressed vintage grapes, used props and supports, composts, and vegetable molds, is prohibited.

Arrangements that may be made in conformity with article 4 1/ of the International Phylloxera Convention concerning the importation of vintage grapes, grape marc, vegetable molds, and used props and supports are reserved.

Furthermore, the Federal Division of Agriculture may, exceptionally, grant authorizations derogating in part the prohibition mentioned in the first paragraph of the present article, when it is shown that such action will result in no risk.

### Products from Nonadhering Countries Restricted

Art. 58. Table and vintage grapes, grape marc, fruit trees, stocks, and shrubs proceeding from countries that do not adhere to the International Phylloxera Convention may be imported only with the permission of the Division of Agriculture of the Swiss Department of Public Economy. 2/

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1/ Article 4 of the International Phylloxera Convention of November 3, 1881, reads: "Contiguous States will arrange for the admittance into the frontier zones of wine grapes, grape marc, composts, vegetable molds, and previously used props and supports on condition that those articles do not proceed from a phylloxera-infested district."

2/ Since the Government of the United States does not adhere to the International Phylloxera Convention, article 58 is applicable to the plants and products mentioned therein which originate in that country.



### Grapes Must Be Free from Leaves and Stems

Art. 59. Table grapes may be admitted at the Swiss Frontier only when they include no grapevine leaves or stems and are packed in well-closed boxes, cases, or baskets, which nevertheless are easy to inspect. The weight of a full case, box, or basket shall not exceed 10 kg.

Customs offices are authorized, exceptionally, to allow an additional weight of 2 kg. 3/

Vintage grapes may be imported only compressed in well-closed casks (barrels) of at least 5 hectoliters capacity, or in sealed tank cars; the latter must be so cleaned that they carry no earth or fragments of grapevines. Exceptions to these provisions may not be permitted unless the cantonal authority consents and engages to have the compressing supervised.

Grape marc may be imported only in well-closed cases or casks.

### Importation Unrestricted

Art. 60. Wine, dried grapes, grape seeds, cut flowers, kitchen-garden products 4/ (vegetables, truck crops), seeds, and fruits, may be imported into Switzerland without restriction. (See the Order of June 5, 1937, concerning fruits from the United States, p. 7 et seq.)

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3/ A general authorization of August 16, 1925, permits the importation of table grapes packed in boxes, cases, or baskets exceeding 10 kg from countries adhering to the International Phylloxera Convention, valid for all Swiss cantons except Valais, into which table grapes may not be imported.

4/ Rooted vegetables, such as edible bulbs, salads, etc., from countries that do not adhere to the International Phylloxera Convention may be imported into Switzerland only when accompanied by a phytosanitary certificate issued by the authorities of the country of origin. In the absence of such a certificate the products may be imported only under a special authorization of the Swiss Division of Agriculture.

### Authorized Customs Ports of Entry

Art. 61. Stocks, shrubs, fruit trees, and all plants except grapevines, proceeding from nurseries, gardens, or greenhouses, may be imported only through designated ports.

### Shipper's Declaration and Phylloxera Certificate Required

Art. 62. These products shall be securely packed, but in such a way as to permit the necessary verifications, and they must be accompanied by a shipper's declaration and an attestation of the authority of the locality of origin.

The attestation of the authority is unnecessary for shipments of plants from establishments borne on the lists published in conformity with article 9 (6) of the International Phylloxera Convention. 5/

The shipper's declaration shall:

1. Certify that the contents of the shipment proceed entirely from his establishment;
2. Indicate the exact receiving point and the address of the consignee;
3. Affirm that there are no grapevine stocks in the shipment;
4. State whether or not the shipment includes plants with balls of earth;
5. Bear the shipper's signature.

The attestation of the authority at the place of origin shall be based on the declaration of an expert and certify:

- (a) That the articles proceed from ground separated from any grape stock by a space of at least 20 meters, or by some other obstacle to the roots deemed sufficient by the competent authority;

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5/ Art. 9. The contracting States, in order to facilitate community of action, engage to transmit regularly, with authorization to make use of them, publications which they make and exchange:

(6) Lists, prepared and kept up to date, of horticultural or botanical establishments, schools, and gardens, which are subject to regular inspection, at suitable times, and officially declared to be in due form with the exigencies of the present convention.

- (b) That the ground itself does not contain any grape stocks;
- (c) That no storage of that plant is made there;
- (d) That if there had been phylloxerated grapevines in that ground, thorough extirpation, repeated toxic applications, and investigations during a period of three years had been carried on which insured the complete destruction of that insect and of the roots.

Art. 63. The Federal Department of Public Economy is authorized:

1. To permit exceptions to articles 59, 61, and 62, where small plants other than grapevines, flowering plants in pots, table grapes without leaves or stems, arriving with a traveler as hand baggage or registered baggage, are concerned;
2. To prohibit the importation of table grapes intended for viticultural regions of Switzerland, but not to prohibit their transit;
3. To take restrictive measures concerning the importation of kitchen-garden products grown between rows of phylloxerated grapevines.

RESTRICTIONS ON THE IMPORTATION OF FRESH FRUITS, TREES, SHRUBS,  
LIVING PLANTS, AND PARTS OF PLANTS

(Order of June 5, 1937)

Phytosanitary Certificate Required

Article 1 (1). Every shipment of fresh "pip-fruits" (pomeaceous fruits) or stone fruits 1/, trees, shrubs, and other living plants, not in tubs or pots, parts of plants, such as scions,

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1/ The Swiss Division of Agriculture requires a certificate for each European carload of fruit (about 400 boxes of apples), therefore a sufficient number of copies of the certificate must be furnished to provide for that contingency. (See also Foreign Plant Quarantines Memorandum No 53, Supplement No. 1.)

cuttings, layers, etc., proceeding from the countries named in article 3, must be accompanied by a certificate of the phytopathological service of the country of origin. 2/ That certificate, prepared or translated into German, French, or Italian, shall affirm that the shipment is free from San Jose scale, other parasites, and diseases. 3/

#### Fumigation of Plants Required

(2) Certificates accompanying trees, shrubs, other living plants, and parts of plants must, furthermore, affirm that the shipment has been subjected, in the country of origin, to an effective disinfection with hydrocyanic acid gas and provided with a seal bearing an inscription, in order to preclude the substitution of other plants that have not been fumigated. The inscription on the seal shall be reproduced in the accompanying certificate.

#### Inspection on Arrival

Art. 2 (1). For all merchandise mentioned in article 1, inspection at the frontier will establish whether or not the shipment is free from San Jose scale, other parasites, and diseases. Entry may not be authorized unless the shipment is free from such pests and diseases. Infested shipments will be refused entry.

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2/ See also article 58 of the Regulations of July 10, 1894 (p. 4), which is applicable to the United States; consequently, living plants from the United States may be imported into Switzerland only under a special authorization of the Swiss Division of Agriculture, notwithstanding the Order of June 5, 1937.

3/ Form EQ-375, revised March 1, 1938, should be used for Federal certification, but State certificates are acceptable.



### Countries Affected

5 Art. 3 (1). The provisions of the present order are applicable to shipments proceeding from the following countries:

Europe: Austria, Hungary, Portugal, Rumania, Russia (U.S.S.R.), Spain, and Yugoslavia.

Africa: Union of South Africa.

America: All countries of that continent.

Asia: China, Iraq, and Japan.

Oceania: The Australian Continent, Hawaii, and New Zealand.

(2) If circumstances require it, the Department of Public Economy can modify the above list.

### Authorized Ports of Entry

Art. 4. The customs offices at Basle, Buchs, Romanshorn, St. Margrethen, Zurich, the free port of Albisrieden, Chiasso, Domodossola, Brigue, Berne, Neuchatel, Lausanne-Entrepot, and Geneva are open for the entry of shipments mentioned in article 1.

Arts. 5 and 6. Prescribe inspection fees and procedure.

Art. 7. Relates to frontier traffic.

Art. 8. (1) With the exception of paragraph 1 of article 1, the present Order becomes effective July 1, 1937. It abrogates the Order of the Federal Council of April 20, 1928, concerning the importation of fresh fruits of American and Australian origin and that of October 25, 1932, concerning the importation of fresh fruits, trees, shrubs, and other living plants proceeding from Austria and Hungary.

(2) Paragraph 1 of article 1, relating to certificates to accompany shipments, becomes effective September 1, 1937.



POTATO WART AND COLORADO POTATO BEETLE RESTRICTIONS

(Order of April 14, 1938)

Certificate of Origin Required

Article 1. Shipments of potatoes capable of introducing potato wart (Synchytrium endobioticum) or the Colorado potato beetle (Leptinotarsa decemlineata) in any stage of development, insofar as they originate in the countries indicated in article 4, will be admitted to customs entry only when accompanied by an official certificate of origin.

Art. 2. In default of any other specially designated authority, the certificate shall be issued by the municipal authority of the place of origin and verified by an official phytopathological institute and include the following data:

- (a) Name and address of shipper.
- (b) Place where grown; name and address of grower.
- (c) Exact description of goods, especially as to the variety, car numbers, packing, etc., in such a manner that the identity of the shipment can be established.
- (d) Declaration that in the land where the potatoes were grown neither potato wart nor Colorado potato beetle have hitherto appeared, and that potato wart has not been determined within a radius of 5 km or Colorado potato beetle within a radius of 20 km thereof. 1/

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1/ This is a practical prohibition against the importation into Switzerland of potatoes grown in the United States with the possible exception of those grown in California, notwithstanding the fact that the Resolution of May 18, 1938, mentions European countries only.

- (e) Destination of the shipment and address of consignee.
- (f) Place and date of issuance of the certificate, as well as the seal and signature of the competent station; the plant protection station that confirms a certificate of origin must affix its seal and signature.

A shipment that is furnished by various growers in the same municipality may be accompanied by a collective certificate of origin.

Art. 3. To prevent the introduction of Colorado potato beetle, the Department of Economy may furthermore prescribe the production of a certificate of origin for shipments of the following products: Root crops with or without soil, tubers, bulbs, rhizomes, and other subterranean parts of plants, in accordance with the provisions of articles 1 and 2.

The Department of Economy is authorized to extend the same regulation continuously or for certain periods of the year, also to the importation of tomatoes, eggplants, fresh vegetables of all kinds, and to packing materials.

Art. 4. The Department of Economy will designate the countries to which articles 1 to 3 are applicable.

It is also empowered to prohibit or to apply restrictive regulations to the importation of potatoes and other products named in article 3 from countries that are infested or infected by Colorado potato beetle or potato wart.

It will absolutely prohibit all importations from countries that have not taken steps to combat efficaciously these two potato enemies.

The Department of Economy can, in particular, order the following measures:

- (a) Make importation conditional upon special permits.
- (b) Require the accompaniment of phytosanitary certificates issued by official plant protection stations and the sealing of the shipment by those stations.
- (c) Promulgate provisions on packing and transport material and on their disinfection.
- (d) Restrict importation through designated customs offices and prescribe technical inspection of the shipment at the frontier.

Art. 5. Potato and produce shipments that do not comply with the provisions of this Order or with the administrative provisions of the Department of Economy or of the Division of Agriculture, or in which potato wart or Colorado potato beetle has been determined are at once to be reported to the Division of Agriculture. The latter will decide on further procedure and, finally, on the disposal of the shipment. Precautions will be taken to prevent any distribution of these pests.

Art. 6. The Division of Agriculture may permit exceptions to the provisions of articles 1 to 5 when risk to Swiss potato culture is precluded.

#### Traffic in Seed Potatoes

Art. 13. The Department of Public Economy is authorized to make special provisions for the importation of and traffic in seed potatoes and to entrust that importation to purchasing cooperatives.

#### Countries from which Certificates of Origin Are Required (Resolution of May 18, 1938)

Article 1. The certificate of origin prescribed by article 1 of the Federal Resolution of April 14, 1938, is required:

- (a) In connection with Colorado potato beetle, for all shipments of potatoes from Belgium, France, Luxemburg, Netherlands, and the German Provinces of Baden, Bavaria (Pfalz), Prussia (Rheinland), and Saarland.
- (b) With respect to potato wart, for all shipments of potatoes from Belgium, Denmark, Germany, France, Great Britain and Ireland, Netherlands, Poland, Sweden, and Czechoslovakia.

The certifications required concerning potato wart and Colorado potato beetle may be prepared either separately or together.